

REMARKS

We have carefully considered the Office Action dated October 31, 2005. Please note that we have filed the documentation for the revocation of the previous power of attorney and the appointment of new attorneys. Accordingly, the correspondence address has changed.

In response to the Section 112 first paragraph rejection of claims 1-18, we have amended claims 1 and 10 to point out that the correction factors are computed based on ratios of the output measurements. The calculated correction factors are then applied to the quantitation data to obtain crosstalk-corrected data. The amended claims thus point out, as set forth in the specification, that algebraic methods are used for computing the correction factors.

With respect to the Section 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 10-18, we point out that claim 10 includes means plus function elements. As discussed in our prior response, the various computational functions of computing a set of correlation factors and applying the set of correlation factors to quantization data are performed by a structure that anyone skilled in the art would recognize, namely, a workstation or any other general or special purpose computer. See, also, page 5, line 20 - page 6, line 18, and Figures 7 and 8. Much like the discussion in the MPEP Section 2181(II), the function or the acts themselves, namely, the computing the set of correlation factors and applying the set of correlation factors to quantitation data, are such that one skilled in the art would understand that a computer performs these functions. Similarly, the step of measuring an out-

put for each of the output channels is a function that one skilled in the art would understand is performed by a micorarray reader or scanner, such as depicted in Figure 8.

We apologize for referring in an earlier response to a discussion of Figure 1 on page 6 of the specification, the reference should have been to Figure 7.

The claims, as amended, should now be in form for allowance. We respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the Section 112 first and second paragraph rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all claims.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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